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SUPPLEMENT TO
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1. There was considerable opposition within the Liberal Party of Colombia to the Party decision to abstain from voting in the 1951 elections,* but Carlos Lleras Restrepo was finally able to persuade a majority to support the decision by explaining the strategy involved. According to Lleras Restrepo, a policy of abstention by the Liberal Party will aggravate dissension within the Conservative Party. If an actual division occurs in the Conservative Party, the Liberal Party may reverse its stand at the last moment and enter the electoral race more or less united.
2. In an effort to unite the Party, the National Liberal Directorate has sent a commission to approach the leaders of the dissident Gaitanist group. The results of this approach are not known. Ruben Uribe Arcila stated that the Gaitanists will continue to fight the directorate, but it is believed by source that Uribe does not speak for the Gaitanists as a group.
3. Source also believes that there is a possibility that the makeup of the directorate may be changed in order to promote unity within the Party.

paragraph 6.

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CLASSIFICATION

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This document is hereby regraded to CONFIDENTIAL in accordance with the letter of 16 October 1978 from the Director of Central Intelligence to the Archivist of the United States.

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